



INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

STEPHEN S. PARFENOFF



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INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT



Inside the Great Conflict

Epic
On the World's War
Politics and Love

By
Stephen S. Parfenoff, LL.B.
Author of "Human Trend."



1920

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INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

Epic on the Great War, Politics and Love

By STEPHEN S. PARFENOFF, LL. B.

Author of "Human Trend"

Cast of principal characters:

BISMARCK

DEMON

KAISER

PEOPLE

LIBERTY

COLUMBIA

ROOSEVELT

UNCLE SAM

WILSON

CZAR NICOLAS

LENINE

TROTZKY

et al



PROLOGUE

It was written enough
Of love and great war
And politics in prose
And I decided, therefore,

To escape the datas
And conventional style,
To use my simple rhymes
And let the critics smile.

Of course, you all admit
That the truth is naked
So read the book quietly
Though your heart is achéd.



PART ONE



CHAPTER I
AGREEMENT
Act I

BISMARCK: (*In his cabinet, angry alone*)

Again a daughter born
To our wretched princess . . .
But we need an heir — man
To fight the world — yes. . . .

We must have a leader
To put the *Vaterland*
Uber alles and to hold
The world in iron hand.

But this — our crown prince
Is just a feeble rat,
They can not give a birth
To an heir — male — a brat.

DEMON: (*Appearing*)

Yes, I can help you.

BISMARCK: (*Surprised*)

Why, is it demon? Well!

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DEMON:

Why, don't you recognize?
Directly from hell!

BISMARCK:

But what do you want of me?

DEMON:

Why, you called me idly,
I am not, I can help you
And can be your ally.

BISMARCK: (*After a moment*)

Well, for the Vaterland! —
Aim justifies the means;
Crime — when — successful
Called virtue by its miens.

Better crime — a success
Than virtue — a failure.

DEMON:

Yes, if I deposed God —
I would live at leisure.

If you conquer the world
Then most shall hail thee

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A liberator — who
The people has set free.

BISMARCK :

Oh, yes, my Vaterland
Must be “uber alles.”

DEMON :

And if you want it so
Then we must be allies.

BISMARCK :

What is your condition ?
Or better state your case !

DEMON :

First you need a leader
Worthy of your race —

And I swear by my might,
That your crown princess
Will have an heir born
Who can not us disgrace ;

And he — when emperor —
Will crown your ambition,
He will conquer the world —
In spite of opposition.

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BISMARCK :

What is your condition
For helping our cause ?

DEMON :

Why, we're Atilla's kins
And pursue the same course.

I want to drag Him down —
The heavenly dweller
And be a king of hell
And heaven together.

I want the kaiser to be —
Supreme power on earth;
And I shall be his Gott
To rule o'er death and birth.

Your God imparts the fears —
Only — an autocrat,
But I'm for liberty,
I am a democrat !

When your folks shall bow
And take me as their Gott
Then liberty will reign
For you, forget me not !

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My condition — easy,
As a matter of fact.

BISMARCK :

*(According to the custom draws
his blood and takes a scroll of
paper from the devil)*

By blood from right hand
I shall sign the contract.

To demon by his blood
Bismarck signed a contract
For his dear fatherland,
Simple matter of fact!

DEMON :

Now, Bismarck, listen,
Our first step is this:
I'll make the princess sleep
Then her you take and—kiss.

BISMARCK :

For my dear fatherland,
I shall kiss the princess —
Aim justifies the means!

DEMON :

Go ahead — your plans I bless.

CHAPTER II

BIRTH OF KAISER

As a fruit of the devil's plan,
In time it came to pass;
A living thing was born —
E'en mother said: alas!

It wasn't a rattle snake
The more fierce looking;
It was not a hyena —
A more blood thirsty thing;

But lo, it was a *male*!
To rule on German throne.
Princess saw a devil born
And she, while all alone,

And terror stricken, tried
To stab the devil-baby,
But the father — demon
There has been already

And took the boy away
By the left arm of his
And saved it thereby,
And that is why it is

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The kaiser's left arm grew
Shorter than the other,
It's a devilish mark
And the curse of his mother.

ANTICHRIST

Jesus Christ was born
In the humblest place;
But the devil was born —
A prince in the palace.

Son of God was greeted
By shepherds and the star
But the son of the devil
By every king and czar.

Oh, hail you all grafters,
Crooks, beasts and rats,
Profiteers, spouse-haters,
Felons, vamps and brats ! !

Here is your inspiration,
Here is your ideal
In your vile spheres
Not a sprite-corporeal.

SOME OF KAISER'S CHARACTERISTICS

Two decades have passed
And look at the devil's son —

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

Hell is not disgraced
Nor is Bismareck undone.

ii

He has the eyes of swine
But with the eagle's sight,
With the features of a bull,
But as a cat — so light.

He was a king of kings
By look and by his mind,
But the kurd was nobler
And yaequis — more refin'd.

Attila and Chingis Chan
And John the Terrible
Were excell'd by this beast
In deeds contemptible.

He was every inch a tyrant,
Lusty — a chimpanzee,
Ravished nuns and sisters
True to his pedigree.

CHAPTER III
ACT II

OLD EMPEROR WAS POISONED

(Bismarck and demon in Bismarck's cabinet)

BISMARCK:

Now, I am growing old
But before I am gone
I want to see Wilhelm
On the German throne.

DEMON:

He is well bred by now,
Graduated from hell,
His past and present deeds
Speak for future well.

Here's a dose of poison —
When the old rat will dine
You give it unto him
In the beer — not in wine.

The king of ninety days
By beer was put on Fritz

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

For good of Vaterland,
That's why they love the Schlitz.

REVELATION TO KAISER

*(Bismarck, demon and kaiser in the
cell of kaiser's family-treasures)*

BISMARCK :

Now, my future kaiser,
Before you mount the throne
We shall tell you a secret,
Which you must know alone.

DEMON :

Your father left a will
And other magic things
How to defeat the world
And be a king of kings.

KAISER :

Oh, that's my ambition --
To put the Vaterland
Uber alles and to hold
The world in iron hand.

BISMARCK :

According to this will,
First you war on Russia,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

In such a way and manner:
The old king of Austria,

Being as your servant,
Shall war on Serbs, of course,
Russia will stand by them —
That's a cause for your force

To be set on Russia
And against her allies.
Czarina, in the meantime,
Being one of our spies,

Shall cause her Nick to quit
Fighting for his brothers —
And we shall win the world! . . .
And then so far as others,

Like England, are concerned,
They can't sail to Berlin;
And the chocolate soldiers
Shall die before they win.

DEMON:

If our trump — czarina
Will be known as our spy
And cause the fall of czar —
Then you'll have to rely

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

On Lenine and the son
Of Judah — named Trotzky,
They'll raise cry for freedom
For the bolsheviky.

But U. S. A., of course,
They arn't going to fight,
We breed there Bryan and
Wilson — they are all right.

And they all shall stand
For peace at any price.
You send your offsprings there
To finance them all wise.

BISMARCK :

When France is over-run
And Russia's on her knees,
Then England will be yours,
And U. S. A. at peace —

Then all your legal sons
And illegitimates
Shall rule the whole world
As blood confederates.

DEMON :

And then your *Vaterland*
Will be *über alles*

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And you as “all highest”
Shall laugh at the allies.

Show a benevolence,
Not an autocracy,
And stand for liberty,
Play in democracy.

And always remember
You are the hand of *Gott* —
The greatest master here
And thus, forget you not,

You are the “all highest”
Amongst this mankind.

WILHELM :

“*Gott* is mit uns,” and soon
The world will so find.

DEMON :

(*Giving a bundle of maps and drawings to Wilhelm*)

We all depend on you,
Take these secret plans
For making war machines,
How to spy or to advance.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

Make wars in Mexico
And strikes in U. S. A.
Boom that business first
And that will pave your way.

Let profiteers get rich
By robbing the poorest class
And make them mad as dogs,
Revolt and die in mass.

Let your men be tyrants
And the agitators
To raise revolutions
As the liberators.

Stand no compromise,
Use well the brutal force
And let the public pets
Be grafters — legal curs,

They'll cause a class war,
Brother will fight brother,
Son will fight his father
And daughter — her mother.

You are to go by trail
Of your ancestors — huns.

WILHELM :

Oh, I shall excel them
Because *Gott is mit uns.*

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

DEMON :

When the world will go mad
In shedding blood and tears
Then you'll be the master
On BOTH hemispheres.

But beware of Roosevelt
And Milukoff — they are
Worse to us than all
Opposing kings and czar.

BISMARCK :

*(Giving a blood-stained sheet to
Wilhelm, who looked at it in dis-
gust.)*

Flag for agitators,
Give it them when you need
Their help, it's their banner
Will help you so in deed.

WILHELM :

*(Stepping backward as from an
abominable premises)*

Why, that's a bloody rag!
Even bulls don't love it. . . .

BISMARCK :

Not the red reformers,
It's their learnt requisite.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

WILHELM: (*Still obstinate*)

Who drew the blood? from whom?

BISMARCK: (*To Wilhelm*)

You drew it by your birth
And we wrote plans with it
To make you king of earth.

(*Kaiser takes the rag and kisses it.*)

CHAPTER IV

ACT I

ANOINTMENT OF WILHELM

(Representatives of many nations were present and some of the crowned heads could be seen. Glittering and pomp was too comprehensible to describe).

It wasn't a wedding feast
Nor funeral of witch,
It wasn't a dog's assembly,
Out of sight, in the ditch,

It wasn't a rat in grease
Nor a mouse in the cream
Or a snake anointing
A snake in joy supreme;

It was the anointment
Of the son of devil,
Was — an anathema —
Triumph of the evil.

With the sounds of anthem
Rang the bells, roared guns,
And in exult of joy
Even monks married nuns —

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

So maiden blood and tears,
Sour-krount, wine and beer,
Duels, cards and robbery
Were mixed in the revere.

E'en diamonds in the crown
Were bought with the blood
Of ages by the devil —
Were prize of sin and lewd.

Why shouldn't they rejoice?
The top of the chaplet even
Was adorned, think of it,
With the cross of heaven.

CONFERRING THE DIVINE RIGHTS

BISMARCK :

(Ending his address, which was an arrogant praise of his Vaterland for her heroic deeds in the past, great achievement in the present, and the great future, praising his Vaterland even for her great undone deeds in advance, exclaims in exult.)

Kings, ladies and gentlemen,
Deutschland über alles!
And glory to our king
And praise to his allies.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

(At this time the suite of high priests approached the stand before the throne with their canonic paraphernalia and the sacramental oil to bestow the divine rights of the anointee.)

PRINCE GORCHAKOFF OF RUSSIA: *(Aside)*

Old frog — über alles,
Unter alles of hogs. . . .

AMBASSADOR OF ENGLAND: *(Aside)*

Über alles of fools. . . .

AMBASSADOR OF U. S. A.: *(Aside)*

Über alles of dogs. . . .

AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE:

Über alles of curs —
The prowlers of nights.

PRIEST: *(Ending his benediction)*

And now by anointing
You'll have "all highest rights."

PRIESTS: *(Praying in a low voice)*

Victories to the king. . . .
Glory to Vaterland. . . .

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GERCHAKOFF:

(Observing the cup with the sacramental oil)

They want to give the devil
Divine rights, understand. . . .

To dispute the right of God!
Not that!—you king of huns. . . .

PRIEST: *(Praying)*

Lord, make us *uber alles*. . . .

WILHELM:

Yes, *Gott ist mit uns*. . . .

GORCHAKOFF:

(While the assembly were praying, he took the cup with the sacred oil and emptied it in his pocket and then poured in it his common booze—vodka—from the quart, which he had a habit of carrying with him even to church, aside)

And this kind of sacred oil
And give you “de-wine rights”

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

PRIEST: (*Anointing Wilhelm with vodka*)

Oh, Lord make all his foes
To fear him — day and night. . . .

GORCHAKOFF:

(*After the ceremony of anointment,
ending his address*)

I pray you all to notice
That now this anointment
Gave the king “De-wine” rights
With God’s arbitrament. . . .

So Wilhelm took the throne
Son of devil, king of huns,
Thinking: *über alles*;
And saying: *Gott mit uns*.

GORCHAKOFF: (*Looking at the kaiser, aside*)

This anointment “de-wine”
Did not make him feel well . . .
And so he won’t succeed —
He will go back to hell. . . .

BISMARCK:

(*Observing no change in the face
of kaiser, scented the trouble and
examined the sacred cup, where-*

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

*upon he found a common mujik
vodka instead of the sacraments
in it and in rage to Gorchakoff)*

My old friend, Gorchakoff,
You are a friend — no more!
You have tricked the master
And for this — we shall war!

GORCHAKOFF: (*Laughing, to Bismarck*)

Go ahead, break your neck,
But there will be no more
“Divine rights” for your kings
Whether in peace or war.

DEMON: (*Appearing and irely to Bismarck*)

For such an impudence,
His czar, the Liberator
Shall die by violence
From hands of conspirator.

I will make his czar's son
A vodka's fiend — to die,
The throne of czar's grandson
Will fall and end his sigh.

(Directly to Bismarck)

Breed for them czarina,
Send more bureaucrats

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And more provocators
To use the mass as brats.

And then Russian nations
And her classes shall fight
As mad dogs and equal
In their fighting might.

(Demon disappears, leaving Gorchakoff and Bismarck face to face. Kaiser observing their stern attitude comes on the scene and drops his handkerchief at the feet of Gorchakoff.)

GORCHAKOFF:

(Observing the purpose of the kaiser, instead of picking it up, steps on the kaiser's handkerchief)

Might of truth is with us —
Might of God and, therefore,
We shall not sleep in peace
And we shall fight in war.

Gott's not mit uns — but God . . .
And all's well — when ends well,
But surely, I believe,
You all shall meet in hell. . . .

(Gorchakoff leaves Bismarck and Kaiser in their irresponsive spell.)



PART TWO



CHAPTER I
ACT I

ENGLISH POLICY

(Session of the English cabinet)

GRAY: *(Expressing the foreign policy)*

Our ancient enemy,
The land power — Russia
Must be made our ally
At the expense of Persia

And Constantinople.
If not — then czarina
Will make Nick an ally
Of kaiser — the hyena. . . .

MINISTER OF MARINES:

And if our fleet will be
Outrivaled on the sea
Then our cause will be lost
And India will be free

And other colonies
Shall follow U. S. A.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And the British cause
Will be lost, Mr. Gray. . . .

GRAY:

Our trump — to form an entente
And then “league of nations,”
Entente to break the huns,
League — to guard possessions.

We can hold what we have
By keeping us in team
With the smallest nations
And the crown will be supreme.

Against the Russian nation
We've revolutions,
We'll keep her paralyzed
By her institutions.

Next president of yanks
Will be a friend of us,
Who shall like the king
And make so — all U. S.

Roosevelts and Milukoffs
Must be dealt with wise —
Keep them out of power
And that — at any price.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

MINISTER OF FINANCE:

France and other nations —
No less — than our vassals
Because their heads depend
On British capitals.

CHAPTER II

ACT II

(In Rome. An agitating conference between the kings of Italy, Roumania Bulgaria and the ambassador of France just before the great war.)

SMART KINGS

AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE: *(Agitated and tired)*

You must be our allies
Against the devil kaiser. . . .

KING OF ITALY: *(Defensively)*

We must have the money. . . .

(He was not a Miser)

Yet, we don't like Russia,
If she is free of curbs
Then we'll not be able
To show a tongue to Serbs. . . .

We want all Dalmatia
And the Adriatic
And make all Jugo-Slavs
To feel as on the attic.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And if Russia will have
The Dardanelles' strait
Then for us — good night —
With the bear tête a tête.

KING OF BULGARIA: (*Antagonistically*)

That's why I took the name
Of czar — it makes me right
To claim the rivalship
With the Moscow might.

The kaiser said to me
To take the name of czar
And here — I am the czar!
The Russian dreams to bar.

KING OF ROUMANIA: (*German prince*)

If czar will have Bosphorus
Then I shall lose my say
In my Roumanian home —
I'll work the other way.

ENTENTE

And so just Russia,
Serbs, England and France
Have formed the alliance
To break the devil's lance.

CHAPTER III
ACT III

WAR

(*State room of the kaiser. Lackey announces the appearance of the “all highest.” Kaiser appears with demon behind him. All the assembly bows in homage. Demon triumphantly laughing.*)

DEMON: (*Aside, to assembly*)

All thy learnt brains — mine,
All thy juniors—my slaves,
Now I will gain by wars
What my ambition craves. . . .

ASSEMBLY: (*To the “highest”*)

We hail “the all highest”—
The “Father” of six sons!

KAISER: (*Aside*)

“Father,” they make me laugh. . . .

(*To the assembly*)

Children, Gott ist mit uns.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

(After receiving reports from his ministers and finding that all his enemies are not yet prepared for the war, kaiser saw the advantage and after summing up the reports in a brief statement, exclaims)

And we are “uber alles!”....
And just as huns before —
We’ll win by sword and fire. . . .
I declare on Russ war!

Squeal and scream and roar
Met his declaration,
E'en Marxists sharpen'd tails
All throughout the nation.

E'en the kaiser's daughter
Loved a commonest hun
For a democracy . . .
When the war's begun.

KAISER WAS PREPARED

Kaiser with help of devil
According to his plans
Built ships for sea and air
And mysterious guns.

To capture gay Paris,
In the year of 1914,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

He without a warning,
Set his best machine.

And so it came to pass —
The social demokrats
Were true to their Bismarck
Had gendarmes in their hearts,

Instead of Marseillaise
Sang “Deutschland uber alles”
And the “Wacht am Rhein”
Killing their own allies.

And the sun was too weak
To send his rays on earth
Thru the clouds of darkness
To light the death and dearth.

And worse than a sarancha
On the spring field of rye,
And worse than the black plague,
And cholera’s death sigh,

Worse than a joy of kurds
In Armenian village,
Worse than Jews’ pogroms
In a Russian pillage;—

It was the kaiser’s march,
The king of beasts and sin,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

To sit in gay Paris
“Unter der baldachin.”

THE MONSTER

Like a reptile wizard,
Breathing fire and gas,
With one blow leveling
The cities to the grass,

And with a single breath
Breaking fences and forts
And by his paws sweeping
Forests, hosts and ports,

Kaiser — ghasty monster —
Horribly marched on,
Blinding the moon and stars
And the rays of the sun.

Misery, tears and blood,
Terror, slaughter and woe
Were his faithful servants,
And against such a foe

Belgium, ought to be said,
With all her little might,
Bravely, at the monster
To stop him, took a bite.

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THE GREAT BEAR

The bite of Belgium
Could not stop the kaiser,
It did not save Paris,
Nor made the beast wiser.

And — one moment more
The proud beauty of France
He would ravish — but then
In such a circumstance

The tail of the monster
That was in East-Prussia
Was caught by the teeth
Of great bear from Russia,

Who would not let it loose
And the beast of kaiser —
Then coiled like a snake,
Trembled like a miser,

And for the strategy,
To capture sweet Paris,
Decided that his tail
First must be made free.

And so he coiled backward.
Struck the bear of Russia
With his available might,
Thrust him out of Prussia —

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But before he could free
His tail from the bear
The British came to help
In less than half a year.

And the beast of kaiser
In new rush for Paris
Lo, the river of Marne
He found then — a broad sea.

With his tail pinched fast
He could pass Marne — no more.
But the French and British
Think that *they* won the war!



PART THREE



CHAPTER I

ACT I

(Scene of garden in the Spring. Roses abloom and varieties of other flowers. Tillie Liberty and Stephen People on the bench under an oak tree.)

LOVE

TILLIE: *(In sweet lover's voice)*

Stephen, dear, I shall be
Happy all my life thru,
Clinging to your side as
Your wife—good and true. . . .

I dream of you by night
And long for you by day . . .
I love you, dear Stephen,
I am your own—I pray. . . .

STEPHEN: *(In exult of gladness)*

Dear, many years I spent
In search of one like you;
And now the world is mine—
You are my—angel—true. . . .

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And how strong I am now!
How sweet is such a life!
I love you, dear Tillie,
Be my partner — my wife. . . .

TILLIE: (*In reverie*)

Stephen, I don't believe
In death — because — we love,
Love makes us saint, pure,
Just as the One above.

STEPHEN:

Tillie dear, talk some more,
I want to hear your voice,
Murmuring ever love,
Thrill me and rejoice. . . .

When I just touch your hand
I feel myself—your part—
Part of sun in heaven,
A universal heart. . . .

TILLIE:

Stephen dear, I love you.

STEPHEN:

Tillie dear, I love you. . . .

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

TILLIE AND STEPHEN: (*Together*)

From now on, help us God,
We vow to be e'er true. . . .

(*Now they kiss and how long — I
know not.*)

CHAPTER II

DEMON SAW LOVE

Well, have you ever been
In love so deep as this?
Did you e'er lose a time
When *you* have had a kiss?

Love perfects imperfect;
Cabbage — makes your rose;
Devil — makes your angel
Whom you cannot oppose. . . .

And here's a proof to you:
A demon loosed from hell
Once flew over U. S. A.
To marry Europe,—belle

Of exquisite beauty;—
The king of blood and death,
The king of hate and wrath,
The king of poison'd breath

Observed the lovers' twain,
Their lips joined in a kiss,—
Heart to heart, breast to breast
And can you believe this —

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

The coward demon stop'd,
The dirty king of hell
Grew ashamed of his life
And on the earth—he fell! . . .

The demon, heartless beast,
Black of sod and dried blood,
Watched the loving couple
While hiding in the mud. . . .

DEMON'S AFFECTION RESULTED IN LOSS OF HIS TWO FRIENDS

Was he there half a day,
Half a year — I know not,
But the beast — the kaiser,
Being without his Gott,

Soon began to question
The hope to win the war
With his tail in the pinch
And blunted teeth, therefore,

His friends deserted him:
First the Italian king
Then the Roumanian king
Joined the British ring

To help the British cause
Against the Russian bear,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

To get for this his share
Or if they can — his hair.

DEMON CRIED

Every kiss and laugh,
Each word of love and cheers
Made the devil meek and mad
And shed his grief in tears.

The first time in his life
Demon cried and his tears
Were dropped on the ground
Of U. S. A., and hear!:—

The land of God's country
Shriveled in disgust,
Shook the hills of the East,
Blew cities to a dust,

Could not chase the devil off
Under the laws of men
But it blew the tears up
In anger great and then

Would not take them back,
Winds carried them away,
One of devil's tears fell
On island of Hawaii

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And now there, where it fell,
Right on the top of the isle,
A hell came out — crater,
Breathing fire all the while.

Another devil's tear
Fell near Valparaise,
State of Indiana,
Where you can find also —

A hole, called Sager's lake,
Set in a lovely vale,
The place where lovers meet,
But listen to this tale:—

E'vry year in the Spring
Its water takes a man
Unfaithful to his maid,
E'er since the lake began.

DEMON FELL IN LOVE

The king of war and slaves,
The king of depths of hell,
Forlorn his own glory,
In love for Tillie fell.

He ran into a lake,
Sod and blood washed off
Attired in a civil dress
And came out,—Bernstoff.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

His servants were so glad,
Chewed the glass, drank the oil
And blood in Mexico
And over Europe's soil.

Some didn't know what to do
So they turned to be good
And took the shape of snakes
And crept all in the wood.

CHAPTER III

ACT III

(Demon as an ambassador was introduced into the society of this country, gained an acquaintance with Tillie Liberty and became her ardent admirer, notwithstanding Tillie's repeated refusal to accept his attention. Scene of the ball given by the ambassador Bernstoff, where could be seen most of the democratic leaders with Wilson and Bryan as the lions of the set. Demon and Tillie on the terrace.)

DEMON'S PROPOSAL

DEMON :

Fair maid of U. S. A.,
Your purity is deep
Sunk in the heart of mine,
I can sigh, I can weep,

I can make war or peace,
I once have dwelt above,
I'm still a king of kings,
But I can't take thy love.

Surrender yourself, maid,
To me, and God Himself

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

Will come down,—a servant
When the world will be — myself.

But I am lacking love.
Maid bestow me thy love,
And the realm of Hell
And the kingdom of above

Shall be united in one
And there will be no fears
Of God or hate of hell,
Nor shedding blood or tears.

Happiness of the world
Depends alone on peace —
So long as hell and heav'n
Live—war will never cease.

Think of the harmony
Of universal peace,
For which humanity
Will pray thee on her knees.

And hail me—Messiah,
Forgetting sacrifice,
And here upon the earth
We'll make a paradise.

I'll give you silk and gold,
Diamonds and rare things,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

World's riches shall be yours.. .
And servants—earls and kings.

THE GIRL RESPONDED

The words of such a kind
From one who can persist
Have a great attraction —
Some girls cannot resist.

And Tillie was not old,
Of mind and body pure,
She could not understand
As one of age mature

The demon's final aim
And agreed with the devil
That 'tis nigh well to end
War of good and evil.

FORGED LETTER

One of the demon's servants
After a little while
Brought Tillie a false message
Full of deceit guile —

A Forgéd letter, saying,
That Stephen overheard
Bernstoff's talk to her
And that now it's absurd

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

To keep the engagement,
She could not understand
Such sort of jealousy
From her loved Stephen, and

She asked the demon—why
He is so eccentric
And the demon said that
May be, he's splenetic,

But it's an old saying
That if you have a lover
You would never listen
Love talk of another.

And so it comes to pass—
When the woman does yield
Her years to love talks—
Thus she loses her shield.

CHAPTER IV
ACT IV

UNCLE SAM

(Sleeping room of Uncle Sam. Roosevelt enters and is trying to wake him.)

ROOSEVELT:

Sam, you sleep too long . . .
Open your eyes and see . . .
I came to talk with you,
Come on, wake up, hear me.

SAM:

Well, let me sleep some more.

ROOSEVELT:

You may sleep when I am gone,
But I am here and I will
Keep you awake, come on! . . .

Uncle Sam gets under
Blankets, but Teddy takes
The blankets off and Sam,
Seeing clothes off, makes

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

A dash to his ward-robe.

SAM:

What is the matter, Teddy,
You go hunting and when
You're back—I'll be ready.

ROOSEVELT:

No, get dressed right now,
We have no time to lose
For beasts in Africa
Or e'en for the bull-moose.

Every common sense
So well understands
That Miss Liberty
Falls in the devil's hands.

SAM: (*Excitedly*)

What? what, my daughter!

(*Reflectively*)

Well, Teddy, can't you see
That my little daughter
Is her own boss and free.

ROOSEVELT:

What, to mary a devil!
And drag us all to hell!

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

No; by God, you sleep yet,
Oh, I shall ring the bell,

I'll wake you up to see
The things yourself quite well
That this groomed Bernstoff
A demon out of hell. . . .

SAM: (*Seriously*)

Why, Teddy, can you prove?

ROOSEVELT:

Yes, come and you shall see
That our Miss Liberty
From the devil is not free!

SAM:

Well, it may be the truth,
That freedom is all right
So long as it is ours . . .
And, surely, I will fight

Any suitor of hell
Who does court my daughter.
Let us go and see him—
Who is that curst plotter?

(*The party leaves.*)

Act IV

SO NEAR—YET SO FAR

(Scene of a parlor. Demon and Tillie by the window.)

DEMON:

Liberty, marry me
And the pearls of oceans,
The gold of the world
And the fur of Russians

I'll bring all to thy feet.

TILLIE: *(Jokingly)*

You can spoil me thereby . . .
So much ev'ry thing. . . .
I want . . .—be good and I. . . .

DEMON:

*(Seeing meekness of Tillie, takes
her by the arms with intent to
kiss her)*

Love me, my dear Tillie,
(Aside)

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

This will take off my curse. . . .

(To Tillie)

And then I will be able
To rule the universe.

TILLIE: *(Hesitatingly)*

I will ask my father first. . . .

DEMON:

Oh, Tillie, you are free,
Therefore, to marry me
You are at liberty.

TILLIE:

Yes, my father said to me
That I'm of age and free
And I believe in that—
What you have said to me.

DEMON:

*(In exuberance of joy steps back
of Tillie and takes his own shape,
aside.)*

Oh, here I am the king,
King of hell and heaven

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And in a moment, God
From heaven shall be driven. . . .

*(Demon takes back the appearance
of Bernstoff and again embraces
Tillie.)*

End of mad world has come,
The end of wars for life . . .
World shall have one *master!*
And there will be no strife.

Then vice and sin shall be
Good as virtue itself,
Then hate will be—love,
Fear—faith, and life—myself.

The tigers and the lions,
All the beasts of prey—
I'll make them human pets
On the streets to play.

TILLIE:

Oh, then I shall be free,
Why, absolutely free,
Yes, I shall marry thee,
My love I give to thee.

DEMON: *(Taking his dev'lish shape, aside)*
I've won—the God is mine!—
The love is in my hand . . .

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And my immortal kiss
My kingdom shall expand. . . .

(Demon leans to kiss Tillie and at that moment Uncle Sam, Roosevelt and People enter in the parlor and see the demon in his real self, who observed the party and stopped to realize the kiss.)

UNPREPARED

SAM: *(Excitedly)*

By God, that's some devil! . . .
Boys, shoot 'im, fire the gun. . . .

ROOSEVELT:

Sam, where's your gun? quick!

SAM:

I have not any one. . . .

Oh, Jesus Christ, help us,
We are not armed, sons,
To kill a bat; Wilson
Is rusting all my guns. . . .

Let us run to Wilson! . . .

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

ROOSEVELT:

Leave the girl to the devil!
No! let's use what we have
To defeat this evil. . . .

(Mr. People makes a rush on the devil with unmistakable intent to fight him with what he has — his fists — but Roosevelt holds him back, saying,)

Let me handle him first,
You see he's a devil and —
Stronger physically
Than you are, understand,

LIBERTY:

I am free, am I not? . . .
Why can't I be as such! . . .

ROOSEVELT:

Yes, I do not deny —
You're free, but not so much —
As to marry a devil
And make us all his kins.

DEMON: (*Laughing*)

Ha, ha, ha, she loves me,
You're late—and my cause wins,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

She will be from now on —
Mine — my own Liberty,
She gave herself to me
And in this she was free!

Your Constitution says
That the people are free
And your God blessed them,
Therefore, you all can see

That under the laws of men
And under the laws of God
Miss Liberty is mine.
You have lost — the wage is odd.

ROOSEVELT:

Our Constitution is
The law of our own land —
It is made for OUR good
To keep our good in hand,

But can't protect the devil,
It's against the COMMON LAW.
And, therefore, the devil
Shall have to withdraw.

DEMON:

But God's law is higher
Than that "common law" of thine,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

God sanctions love on earth —
She loves me — she is mine. . . .

*(And the demon with Liberty in
his arms makes a dash for out-
side, but Roosevelt catches him by
the wings and halts)*

ROOSEVELT :

Wait, I am not thru yet,
Why is such a hurry ?
If you're right — you'll have
Liberty, why worry !

And we will not claim her,
But see, *OUR* Liberty
In the hands of the devil
Does not make *him* free. . . .

DEMON : *(irely)*

She loves me — she is mine. . . .

ROOSEVELT :

NO ! she's saved by LOVE —
Love is virtue of God
And her home is above.

DEMON : *Makes Liberty blind with his breath and
irely)*

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

DEMON :

If I did not win her
By my love then, I swear,
I'll win her by the war!

(And started to run away)

STEPHEN PEOPLE: *(Running after demon)*

Await you, devil, wait!
I have not got the lead
But with my empty hands
I'll tear off your head!

UNCLE SAM :

Go to, boy, and get him!

ROOSEVELT :

No use, Sam, you will see,
He has a safety place
In the German embassy.

LIBERTY: *(As after a sleep)*

Yes, I know myself now —
I have been so blind,
And now my eyes — outward
Expression of my mind.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

UNCLE SAM:

Liberty, from now on
You *can't* be by yourself.

LIBERTY:

Yes, I shall be more safe
In your care, I know myself.

CHAPTER V
ACT V

(Scene of Wilson's cabinet. Session of council of defense. Most of the members are present.) — keep away from fighting, peace at any price, too proud to fight, etc.

STEPHEN PEOPLE: *(In altercation)*

Wilson, I want a gun!
To kill a demon, see. . . .

WILSON:

No, you haven't the right . . .
The devil is in his embassy.

ROOSEVELT:

But he brings upon us WAR,
Destroys our property,
Kills our men and is
Filching our Liberty. . . .

PEOPLE:

He blows our mills in air —
He plunders our land. . . .
We must fight him down
And all his devilish band. . . .

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

WILSON :

I don't approve the FIGHT,
But the SHIPS and OUR MEN
Must KEEP AWAY from him—
It will be all right then.

ROOSEVELT :

But he destroys our homes,
Steals Liberty away. . . .

WILSON : (*Antagonistically*)

Why, I said already—
That they MUST KEEP AWAY.

UNCLE SAM : (*To Wilson, resolutely*)

No, I can't suffer that,
And you're talking a fish,

(*Excusing himself for the slang*)

Open armories of mine,
Give them arms, so I wish. . . .

WILSON :

Oh, listen, wait, my master,
By Jove, I'll write a note,
For a year or two or more!
I'll try to "get their goat."

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And you can all admit
That the might of my pen
Can protect the honor
Of every denizen.

ROOSEVELT:

Oh, you have been using
Your writing might for years
And it produced only
More of blood and tears.

And all other nations
Now ridicule your course —
It's a disgrace for us,
Your policy — a curse.

BRYAN: (*Fearing that there may be a fight*)

God bless you, children,
Peace! peace! at any price. . . .
War is hell, don't you fight . . .
Hatch a dove — my advice. . . .

WILSON: (*To Bryan*)

I thank you my teacher.

MARSHALL: (*To Wilson, pathetically*)

You kept us out of war
Oh, so sucessfully
And you can keep so — more.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

WILSON:

Thank you, Mr. Marshall,
And you shall keep my vice,
So long as I am here
Stick by me — my advice.

STEPHEN PEOPLE:

Mr. Vice-manager,
Suppose that your wife
Is assaulted by a devil
Would you fight — save her life?

BRYAN: (*Interrupting*)

Peace, peace at any price.

MARSHALL:

And that is what we say —
She must be more careful
And keep from him away.

WILSON: (*To Roosevelt, bluntly*)

Say, you — republicans,
You think me an autocrat,
Can't you understand that
I am a *democrat*? —

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

ROOSEVELT:

No, I am American!
And stand for union
And liberty of men—
Whom we depend upon.

WILSON: (*Continuing*)

I AM TOO PROUD TO FIGHT,
I am too good for this. . . .
Let other people fight,
But I will live in bliss.

ROOSEVELT:

Come, Mr. Manager—
Would you fight for your wife,
Knowing that you can save
Thereby her very life?

WILSON:

Oh, most assuredly. . . .
To save her life — I'll fight!

BRYAN:

Peace, peace at any price,
Manager, you aren't right! . . .

You were saying before
I am too proud to fight,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

Loved peace at any price,
Held — might isn't right. . . .

Better live — a coward
Than a hero in the grave. . . .

ROOSEVELT:

Would you fight to be free
Or live in peace — a slave?

BRYAN: (*To Wilson*)

Yes, peace at any price,
That's just my idea! . . .
And if you want the grave
Go fight o'er the sea. . . .

But since you're for this stuff,
Here's my resignation. . . .

(*Solemnly*)

GIVE ME LIBERTY
OR A GRAPE-JUICE CONVENTION.

WILSON: (*Solemnly*)

Grape-juice convention,
National prohibition
Shall glorify your name
And fill your ambition.

END OF PART THREE

CHAPTER VI
ACT VI

WAGER OF POLITICS

Demon met a failure.
To win love in U. S.
And so came back to his
Old haunts for new success.

When the last two kings
Joined the ring of British
And so many thought then
That war's at the finish.

But it came not to pass
Devil was too mad to rest:
While eating spaghetti
He smashed all Bucharest.

But still his tail was fast
Held in the teeth of the czar,
And from his goal in Paris
He still was very far.

Then devil bade czarina
With all her blackest might
To bring peace with the Russ
And stop her nation's fight.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

But the Russian people
Cut her business off,
And the mad czarina caused
The fall of Romanoff.

So England sent to Russia
Gramophon — Kerensky —
But devil with bloody rag
Sent — Lenine and Trotzky.

The devil's policy
And British policy
In respect of Russia —
Was — “more democracy.”

(Demon and Kaiser)

KAISER: *(Alliance with reds)*

My dreams are coming through.
Russia is dwindling off.

DEMON:

The British aided me
To o'erthrow Milukoff.

DEMON:

Call Lenine and Trotzky
For a conference with us.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

KAISER:

Lenine's here but Trotzky
In the red haunts of U. S.

But I am, sure, in doubt —
Whether men of Karl Marx
Can help us very much.

DEMON:

Oh, they are easy marks.
You don't forget your own
Marxian democrats.

KAISER:

Oh, well, that's different,
They always were my brats.

(Lenine enters)

DEMON: *(Interview with Lenine)*

I heard that you would
Accept help from the devil
To make the lower class
To uproot the bourgeois evil.

LENINE:

Yes, I said — long ago
That the proletariats

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

Must rule the world as kings
And not exist as brats.

And to uproot the rule
Of cruel capitalism
I'd accept the devil's help
For the cause of bolshevism.

DEMON :

For the equality
And brotherhood of man.

KAISER :

All Russia then will be
A patriarchal clan
With me — their patriarch.

DEMON : (*To kaiser*)

Don't show your ignorance,
Call it a communism,
And great deliverance.

KAISER : (*Correcting himself*)

Das ist recht, in my heart
I'm not an autocrat,
I long for socialism —
I am a democrat.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

And that's why my Marxists
Fight for me, because —
I am for liberty

(To Lenin, positively)

I'm fighting for your cause.

And my Bulgarian czar —
A socialist, too, you see,
And the Turkish sultan
Made all his harem free. . . .

(After a passing thought)

When I picked the flowers
From the graves in France
I heard them say to me
Further not to advance.

And why should I fight?
When there is a better chance
To establish my rule
By means of your fine plans?

I stand for liberty,—
And freedom of the sea
For a universal Gott —
For a democracy.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

LENINE: (*Aside*)

Of course, he is a liar
But I will use his aid
To establish bolshevism,
Of him I'm not afraid.

KAISER:

You know this very well —
The war's been forced upon me,
For I'm a radical
And stand for liberty.

LENINE:

Point of information:—
For whose liberty?

KAISER:

For liberty of men —
Such as you and me.

Our interest — the same —
I'll get the capitals
Of my foes on the west
And help your radicals

To make you all supreme
To do whatever you please

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

In Russia, but hear this:
"We are to live in peace."

(*Aside*)

He is an easy chap
Then all his motherland
Will become soon after
The part of Vaterland.

LENINE: (*Aside*)

I will make his tail rot
When I get the power
And to save his own head
He'll hide in his Dutch bower.

(*To Kaiser and devil*)

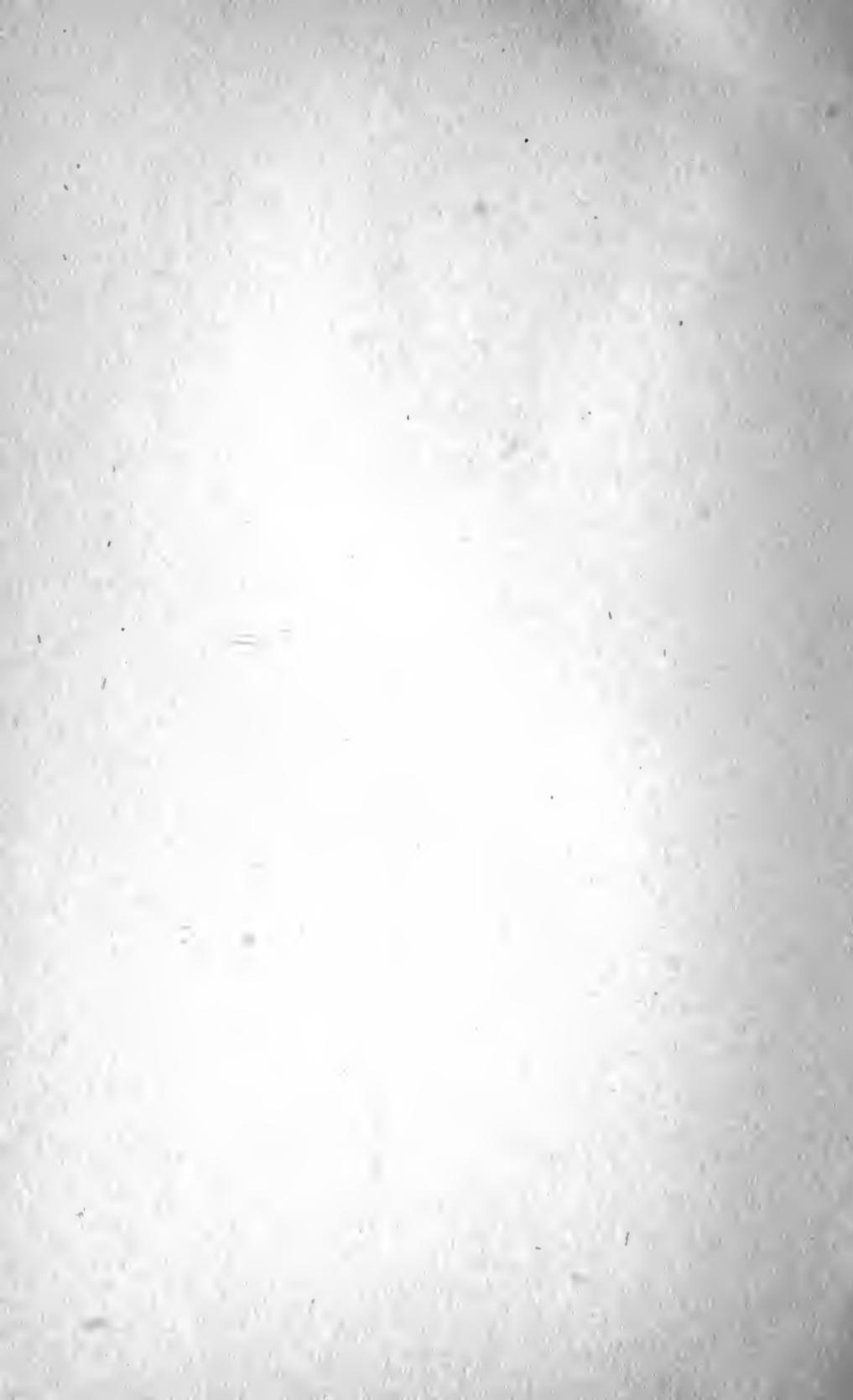
Your offer pleases me,
Finance the bolshevists,
Send us your officers
And all your communists

To put the middle class
In Russia underneath
And to the working class
Present a victor's wreath.

(*Lenine leaves, shaking hands with
the devil and the kaiser.*)



PART FOUR



Act I

FRUITS OF RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

(Meeting of delegates in Russia to decide on peace or war against the kaiser after the czar was deposed.)

STAND OF PROGRESSIVE PARTY

MILUKOFF: *(Ending his speech)*

We must fight the kaiser
And fight to the finish
And then protect ourselves
From the Japs and British. . . .

(After explaining the relations of Russia with the foreign nations and the necessity of concerted action of all the people of Russia for the interest of the country)

(Appealing)

To save Russia from wreck —
Keep the law and order. . . .

VOICE OF BOLSHEVIKS:

Law and order of czar? . . .
Slavery and hunger! . . .

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

MILUKOFF: (*Replying*)

Homicide for a crime
Cannot be a murder,
It's never slavery
To yield to law and order.

(*Continuing*)

For the welfare of Russia
We must have the Dardanelles —
Open roads to the seas.
And what we're in need of else

Is to teach the masses
To read and write,— and —
The curse of bolshevism—
The people to forget.

History makes no jumps,
Right after monarchism
You never can establish
The state of communism.

The republic must be built
By the gradual evolution
Of the masses themselves,—
Not by a revolution.

(*Milukoff leaves the tribune under the applause of the delegates*)

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

STAND OF MODERATE SOCIALIST

KERENSKY:

(After speaking a few hours on the subject of war without annexation and indemnities and on scientific socialism)

Milukoff, my comrades,

Is not a socialist —

Wants his Dardenelles!

He's an imperialist! —

No better than the czar,

But our revolution —

Made to change conditions

Of the old constitution —

(Shouting)

Down with the laws of the czar! . . .

Down with discipline! . . .

In the army and navy! . . .

Down with the czar's machine! . . .

Long live the committees!

Committees everywhere!

In the army and navy. . . .

GENERAL KORNILOFF: *(To Milukoff)*

This soap box debonnaire,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

By destroying discipline,
Will cause our might to cease.
With the fall of our armies —
Russia will lose its peace.

MILUKOFF: (*To Korniloff*)

He is a British hand.

KERENSKY:

We must fight — God compels !.

But — no annexation !

We need not the Dardanelles.

We must fight the kaiser,

Down with his institutions !

But no indemnities,

And no contributions ! . . .

And universal peace

Will come and stay with us,

And then will liberty

Protect the home of the Russ !

(*Kerensky leaves the tribune under the applause of delegates.*)

STAND OF ARMY LEADERS

GEN. KORNILOFF:

(*Korniloff made an impassioned speech on the subject of preserv-*

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

ing the discipline in the army and navy in order to continue the war against the central powers and to hold Russia together from breaking to pieces.)

New God — new sacrifice!
But I'll rebel,—to-day. . . .

(Pointing to Kerensky)

He drifts to bolshevism;
I shall drive them away.

I am a moujik myself,
And this you can't deny,
And I'll fight for Russia
To save her or I die.

*(Gen. Korniloff leaves the tribune
under the applause of delegates.)*

BOLSHEVISM

LENINE: *(On the tribune)*

Comrades, citizens, friends,
We do not want their war,
We don't want the slaughter!
We want our freedom more!

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

We want but peace and bread!
But freedom, peace, and bread!
That is what we all want. . . .

(To the right from the center)

YOU want to die — GO AHEAD!

But don't make the others
To die for you — in war. . . .

(To the right from the center)

The mass works for you—yet!
That's not enough — NO, more —

You want them to die for you.
But that's too much to ask
From anybody, because,
It's a self perform'd task.

*(After two hours of speaking on
the subject of inequality and op-
pression, etc.)*

Down with bourgeoisie! . . .
And private property! . . .
Down with slavery! . . .
Long live liberty! . . .

All the lands—to peasants!
All the mills—to workers!

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

All the stores—to masses!
All the bread—to toilers. . . .

(Applause from the left interrupts the speaker)

VOICE: *(From the left)*

We want you our leader. . . .
Make free the enslaved mass. . . .
Long live the brotherhood
Of the only working class. . . .

(General commotion of the assembly stops the speaker and is beyond control of the chairman. Trotzky in meantime comes to Lenin and, after a consultation with him mounts the tribune. Lenin leaves the assembly immediately and returns with an armed force which by violence ousts the opponents.)

TERRORISM

TROTZKY:

(Speaking more than two hours on the subject of cause and prevention of wars, peace with Germany and social revolution)

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

To save the revolution
We must have a red guard—
Death to the bourgeois class!
Kill them or whip them hard!

All who are not with us
Are against us, therefore,
On each opponent now
Here we declare a war! . . .

(After a deliberation on the practical matters the assembly had elected the ministers. Lenin was elected by the commissioners as their president and Trotsky as a minister of war and navy. Henceforth the orders of this body were carried out strictly under the penalty of death as from the supreme authority of the land.)

RESULT OF BOLSHEVISM

KAISER'S GREATEST VICTORY

So Russia was brought down
The devil's tail was free
And the British navy ruled
The ports of the Russian sea.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

Soon the middle of Europe
Came under the kaiser's hand
And the Russ were sold to him
By Trotzky and his band.

And the might of the kaiser
Grew stronger than before
And the world was thinking
That the kaiser won the war.

CALL FOR HELP

And in this distress,
To save them in the fray,
They looked about for help,
And turned to the U. S. A.



PART FIVE



CHAPTER I

RESPOND

*(Meeting of the council of defence
of the U. S. A.)*

ROOSEVELT:

The kaiser wins the war—
All the middle of Europe
And Russia are with him
For the allies there is no hope.

Shall we trust the kaiser
Since his treaty with the Russ . . .
And shall we live in peace
When he makes war on us? . . .

Lusitania is sunk—
What proofs need you more
To show you that it's *not*
A friendly act—but WAR.

WILSON:

*(After the speeches of other states-
men in favor of war)*

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

Yes, and I am tired, too,
Of corresponding more,
And for democracy
We'll start on the kaiser-war.

UNCLE SAM ACCOMPLISHED IMPOSSIBLE

And Uncle Sam *did* start,
With all his fervent might —
Became ready for war
Practically over night.

He has accomplished
The impossible thing —
Built bridges over seas
And made all Europe sing

The star spangled banner.
And why should they not sing!
When in such a dire stress
They saw a hope on the wing?

British sin for Russia
Was paid by the blood
Of boys of Uncle Sam,
Forget it not, my God.

CHAPTER II

ACT I

LAST CHARGE OF DEVIL'S ARMY

But a sin for a sin:
Beast's tail would not heal!
Because it was infected,
Now they themselves reveal,

With the kaiser's poison —
With a fierce bolshevism,
And kaiser started to cry
For peace and humanism.

Why he became so good? —
Saw stars and stripes ahead!
And his tail in the rear
Was gangrened! — it was red. . . .

And the ire monster then,
He has groaned once more
And struck, to save his life,
The front to win the war! . . .

But the eagles of Uncle Sam
Met him over the top
And made him run so far
It seemed he would never stop.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

(The scene of battle in France)

MARXISTS' STRATEGY

PEOPLE:

Say, wait you, Kamarade:
Wherefore such a hurry?
Wait, *my demokratens.*

DEMOKRAT: *(Running ahead toward Berlin)*

I cannot, I am sorry.

(Running without looking back)

I am going to Berlin,
I can swear,— I am sore,
To depose the Kaiser.

PEOPLE:

Because he lost the war!

But say, you hypocrite,
Leave your arms or I fire.

SOCIAL DEMOKRAT: *(Throwing arms down)*

Don't shoot me, but the kaiser,
Whom no longer I admire.

He kept us out of peace.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

PEOPLE:

Because he loves you more.

SOCIAL DEMOKRAT:

Just like your President,
Who kept you out of war.

We're going back to Berlin.
Oh, Gott is still mit uns,
My Vaterland is saved. . . .
Shoot the kaiser and his sons! . . .

BLAMING AUTOCRATS

And so it came to pass
The social demokrats
Put the blame for war
On their autocrats.

ACT II

(Demon and kaiser in the bower of Holland)

KAISER: *(A fugitive)*

My Gott, our cause is lost.

DEMON:

Not quite or not at all.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

KAISER:

I am a fugitive here,
Not in the mirror's hall.

DEMON:

It's a strategic move
For the good of the *Vaterland*—
See, if you are deposed
And all your high command—

Then your own demokrats
Will meet a democrat—
The President Wilson.

KAISER:

Why, what do you mean by that?

DEMON:

What do I mean by that?

(Ending his explanation)

They'll put the blame on you,
For causing the great war
To escape to pay the due.

KAISER: *(Nodding his head in consent, then)*

But who will pay his cost
For coming over here?

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

DEMON :

But he's a democrat,
I've said, didn't you hear?

ACT III

DIPLOMATISM

*(Clemenceau and Lloyd George
after the armistice was signed and
before the peace conference)*

LLOYD GEORGE :

My friend, I pray to God —
Oh, we have won the war. . . .

CLEMENCEAU :

My friend, France is saved —
The kaiser is no more.

LLOYD GEORGE :

And Russia out of the way —
And we have her ports yet.

CLEMENCEAU :

They saved us from the kaiser —

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

LLOYD GEORGE:

The past we must forget.

Now we shall get the loot.
And then we'll make U. S.
Thru a "League of Nations"
To guard our loot and us.

CLEMENCEAU:

Do you think the Russ will be
At our confernece, here?

LLOYD GEORGE:

Kerensky's a waiter now—
They've no one that we'd hear.

BENEFICIARIES OF THE WORLD'S WAR

All's well that ends well.
The British and the French
And the idle kings
Have won the war on the bench. . . .

The French and British took
The kaiser's lands and ships,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

The kings took what they could,
Wilson enjoyed his trips.

Japs took Eastern Asia
And bolted off with that,
And Russia became a prey
To the proletariat.

But the boys of Uncle Sam,
By grace of democrats,
“Won” Sixty Dollars each
To buy them suits and hats.

WILSON'S FAILURE

Wilson came in triumph
At the peace conference
But on coming home — was
Without such preference. . . .

Wilson's “Fourteen Points”
Were small for “demokrats”
And did not satisfy
The other diplomats. . . .

And so it came to pass,
His “Fourteen Points” were lost. . . .
Though we fought for nothing
But we paid the war cost.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

ACT IV

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF BISMARCK

*(Spirit of Bismarck and the demon
on the gallery at the peace con-
ference in the Summer of 1918.)*

SPIRIT OF BISMARCK:

I cannot suffer that,
Such a degradation. . . .
Our contract is broken,
I want a reparation! . . .

DEMON:

Bismarck, it was your fault.

SPIRIT OF BISMARCK:

What, the fault was mine?

DEMON:

Yes, kaiser was anointed
By the unholy wine. . . .

PART SIX



ACT I

(Scene of garden. Spring in full swing. People sitting under an oak tree on the bench, looking at the statue of liberty.)

LOVE

Oh, my sweet Liberty,
I shed my blood and tears
Just for looking at you —
So many days and years. . . .

I fought England for you,
I fought the Spaniard out,
I fought the kaiser down
And more I'll fight—no doubt.

I love you, Liberty,
I love your lips and eyes
And if you were mine now
I'd feel in paradise. . . .

Liberty, I love you,
Come down, and be my wife
And we shall be happy
Thru our eternal life.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

COLUMBIA'S RÔLE

COLUMBIA:

*(Appearing to People and pointing
at liberty's statue)*

My boy, do you know her? —
I see, you are sincere. . . .

PEOPLE:

But I believe in her,
And she is to me so dear. . . .

COLUMBIA:

All who loved her before,—
From immemorial times,
But just while courting her,
They have committed crimes,

Because they know her not.
Now she's growing older
And I want her to be
The wife and the mother.

But before the wedding
We shall descend to hell
To show you her lovers.

PEOPLE:

With you am ready, well.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

ACT II

CZAR NICHOLAS II

(Our party on approaching the gorge of hades observed a house at the end of a small garden, where there was a man working about flowers)

PEOPLE:

(Asking the man on approaching him)

Who is living in this house?

(A man turns to the party and People exclaim to Columbia)

My God, that is the czar, well,
But, surely, I expected
To see the czar in hell.

CZAR NICHOLAS:

That is my own dwelling,
My family and I
Live in this little house.

PEOPLE:

How's that you're here, why?

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

CZAR NICHOLAS:

Didn't I suffer enough
While on the Russian throne? . . .

PEOPLE:

Well, it may be so, but
It's a *fault* of your own.

Where is the czarina?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

She lives in the abyss. . . .

PEOPLE:

Why, are you separated —
That you can live in peace?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

Oh, well, she visits me
Here every other day. . . .

(Czarina appearing from hell)

Now she is coming here. . . .

(To the party)

Oh, no, don't go away. . . .

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

PEOPLE:

Why is she kept in hell?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

For treachery, my friend.
She helped the devil's cause
And caused my rule to end. . . .

PEOPLE:

But how did you escape
From being down with her?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

I loved her — all lovers —
Exempt from hell, my sir.

And because of my love
Heaven granted her
The right to visit me. . . .
I am here a gardener. . . .

(Czar as if in a dream)

She died — a broken heart,
But my son and daughters
And myself were murdered
By the band of robbers.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

PEOPLE: (*Taking leave from the czar*)

What's your message to men?

CZAR NICHOLAS:

To love their own wives,
Minding their own affairs,
And hell won't take their lives.

(*Our party entered the gorge of hades and disappeared therein. Then the four daughters and son of the czar came and greeted the parents*)

ACT III

HADES — WHERE THE ADMIRERS OF LIBERTY LIVE

(*Scene of ordinary picture of hell, where all the provoking agitators are snakes. Saloon keepers are derelicts after the night before. Dishonest bankers are shovelling a red hot gold. Bad wives and girls are running naked and hounded by the beasts and reptiles of every description. Old maids are turned into barren and dry trees, on the branches of which the gossips are hung by their tongues. The crooked judges and lawyers and the fake doctors are the coockoos whose number is decreasing. All the*

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

cheating profiteers are suffering a lose of one pound of flesh every day from the hands of Shylock, who is now their chief creditor and judge.)

THE KING OF HADES

(People and Columbia went through the whole crowd unmolested physically and approached the king of all the ghastly inhabitants)

PEOPLE:

Who is that blackest chap?
He looks like a kaiser. . . .

COLUMBIA:

That is his own father,
First Liberty's admirer. . . .

He tried to free himself
From God — to marry her,
And now for that attempt
He's such a character. . . .

DEMON: (*To People*)

You took my love on earth,
Therefore, I lost the war. . . .
But you have profiteers
And reds — I'll come once more. . . .

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

COLUMBIA: (*To People*)

Keep your true love in you
And he'll ne'er come out.

PEOPLE: (*Excitedly*)

Oh, I'll furnish a home
To each soldier — no doubt. . . .

COLUMBIA:

Not only to the soldiers —
But to every one. . . .
Then you'll marry Liberty
And he'll be left alone.

THE KAISER

KAISER:

(*Appearing from the darkness and,
on observing the visitors, half surprised takes a seat on his throne*)

Visitors from the earth. . . .

PEOPLE: (*To Columbia*)

And this is the kaiser!
He isn't so dashing here,
He looks more a miser.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

(To the kaiser)

Your majesty of hell,
What would your message be
To your kins on earth? . . .
Would you tell it to me?

KAISER:

Soon they shall follow me. . . .
You see that row of thrones —
These for the Norman kings. . . .
On my left — the little ones.

(Directly to our party)

My message to them all —
To love your Liberty
If sooner they desire
To join my company.

Would you send a message
To your own Vaterland?

KAISER:

To help the bolsheviks
And crooks on every hand. . . .

And reform my old guard,
And while the first two fight,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

My old guard will appear
And reconstruct my might. . . .

*(People and Columbia on leaving the kaiser
meet a crowd of beasts with human heads,
venerably looking at him.)*

ACT IV

THE SUPERMEN

PEOPLE: (*Surprisingly*)

Who are these strange monsters?

COLUMBIA:

Why, don't you recognize? . . .
The kaiser's generals!

PEOPLE:

Why they are in disguise. . . .

COLUMBIA:

Those are the supermen,
And they are themselves here,
In their real Vaterland,
In their own shape and sphere.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

PEOPLE: (*Looking at the beasts*)

And this is Hindenburg
With the body of a bulldog.
And this is Ludendorff
With the body of a hog. . . .

COLUMBIA:

(*Taking People by his hand and going farther*)

Now we shall see some more
Admirers of Liberty,
Who're enjoying themselves
In this society. . . .

ACT V

OCTOPUS UBER ALLES

(*Our party has approached a cave with a sign on the entrance “Octopus Uber Alles”*)

COLUMBIA:

Look at this — Von Tirpitz! . . .
He is an octopus here,
Eats the flesh of babies
Without a shame or fear.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

PEOPLE: (*To Von Tirpitz*)

You're thirsty on the seas
And hungry here in hell. . . .

VON TIRPITZ:

You cannot talk to me —
I'm the kaiser's sentinel.

COLUMBIA:

Oh, wait, my dear People,
We shall meet some more
And better freedom-lovers
Than we met heretofore.

ACT VI

LENINE'S END

COLUMBIA: (*Pointing at the graveyard*)

And here suffers Lenine.
He's borne by a red flame
And every day and eve
He is changing his name

And hides from the others;
The reason is simply this;
E'en here in hades
He is feeling an abyss.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

He couldn't bring about
The social revolution,
Therefore, he'll have to flame
While gradual evolution

Is bringing poor and rich
Closer to each other. . . .
He made one revolution
But he can't make another.

PEOPLE: (*To Lenin*)

Why you failed to bring
The social revolution
All throughout the world,
May I ask this question?

LENINE:

Yes, and I'll answer short:
One hundred bolsheviks
Contained:—sixty common fools,
Thirty-nine mensheviks,

Criminals and rables,
ONE—decent bolshevik!
Arithmetic decided
Such a body politic.

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

PEOPLE:

What helped you the most
To gain your power there
In the land of Russia?

LENINE:

Profiteers and hunger, sir.

PEOPLE:

Why the devil failed you?

LENINE:

Oh, he failed flat himself
To win love in U. S.—
So you know that yourself.

PEOPLE:

Tell me, Mr. Lenine,
Was it bolshevism
That did break Russia down?

LENINE:

No, it was terrorism. . . .

For bolshevism as such—
The abolition of classes,

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

Is but a communism—
A ruling by the masses,

Where there's no rich or poor,
And gold's but an ornament—
Of no value to the owner,
Where peace is permanent. . . .

Abolition of armies,
Abolition of navies,
Abolition of jails,
Franchise of the ladies. . . .

Freedom . . . equality . . .
And fraternity . . .
State to feed and care
And state's maternity.

PEOPLE: (*Cutting him short*)

Why, you don't have it
In Russia established?

LENINE:

Bolshevism in Russia
Stayed—a day and—vanished. . . .

PEOPLE:

And here will be your end?

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

LENINE:

My dreams have flown away,
And in this dreary place
I am condemned to stay

Till profiteers and hunger
Shall create the unrest
When the real bolshevism
Will arise from its nests.

*(Our party leaves Lenine with a
doubtful smile.)*

ACT VII

HOME OF TROTZKY

(Scene of the gloomiest and dirtiest place in hell. Heterogeneous conglomeration of all sorts of beasts and reptiles,—the most vile, vulgar, ignoble, cowardly, base, abject, sordid, sinful, vicious, degrading, predatory, provocating, abominable, odious, execrable, loathsome, and abhorring, repugnant to every senses of touch, taste, smell, sight and hearing.—Such was the picture before the eyes of our party. There our party

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

observed the chief of the premises coiling on the corpse of half dead and naked victims with the red flag posted over them on which is written: "Bolshevism of Trotzky and Co.")

ACT VII

TROTZKY'S GREED

PEOPLE:

And this ghastly reptile! . . .

COLUMBIA:

A boa—with Trotzky's head. . . .

PEOPLE:

Why, venomous viper . . .
Of whom you heard and read. . . .

(Repugnantly)

Such a malformation! . . .

COLUMBIA:

He is hunting after gold,
When he finds a bourgeoise—
Either sex—young or old—

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

He simply swallows it
And keeps the gold himself.
In the name of freedom
Even here he gets his pelf.

(When our party were near Trotzky's head the reptile opened its jaws and was ready to swallow People, but Columbia stood on guard of People and averted the crime.)

COLUMBIA: *(To Trotzky)*

Behold, you red reptile,
We are visitors here
And not quite your subjects.
Keep out and don't coil near.

(People wanted to see yet the Japanese and Chinese potentates, but Columbia informed People that they live in worse slums than that of Trotzky's habitat, so they took the way out to the light.)

ACT VIII

EPILOGUE

(The same garden of roses from which People and Columbia went to hades. God, because, of

INSIDE THE GREAT CONFLICT

People's true love to Liberty returned her sight and made her a real being. Now we see them together happy — in love.)

PEOPLE:

I love you, Liberty,
E'en after having seen
Your suitors in hades,
And I would have been

Unhappy all my life
Without being with you.

LIBERTY:

I love you, my dear People,
And I'll be good and true.

(People and Liberty kiss and God Himself appears)

GOD: *(Blessing People and Liberty)*

Love, honor and obey
And you shall ever be
Free, happy and in peace
Through all eternity.

(White angels appear and lay the laurels on the heads of lovers.)





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